

Court Information Release



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION
219 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60604

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United States District Court for
the Northern District of Illinois
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Thomas M. Durkin's Nomination as Judge of the Northern District of Illinois Confirmed

CHICAGO – On Monday afternoon, December 17, 2012, the U.S. Senate confirmed the nomination of Thomas M. Durkin as a U.S. district judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Judge-Designate Durkin received his Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Illinois in 1975 and his Juris Doctorate from the DePaul University College of Law in 1978, graduating with honors from both institutions. After law school, Durkin worked as a law clerk to now-retired District Judge Stanley J. Roszkowski in 1979 and 1980. Durkin then served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Northern District of Illinois from 1980 to 1993, where he held the positions of First Assistant U.S. Attorney, Chief of the Special Prosecutions Division, and Chief of the Criminal Receiving & Appellate Division. Durkin is currently a partner at Mayer Brown LLP, and focuses on commercial and business litigation as well as white collar criminal defense. An experienced litigator and Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, Durkin has tried more than 50 jury trials to verdict.

The district court currently has four judicial vacancies. Judge-Designate Durkin will fill the judicial position that became vacant on July 31, 2010 when Judge Wayne R. Andersen retired. Chief Judge James F. Holderman stated, "We have been waiting over two years to fill this position, and we couldn't be happier to welcome Tom Durkin as a colleague on the bench. He is an outstanding person and has a wealth of federal court experience. We know he will be ready to hit the ground running, which is what we need as we judges continue to efficiently and fairly provide justice in the Northern District of Illinois." The swearing-in of Judge-Designate Durkin is anticipated to take place in January 2013.

Illinois's two U.S. Senators, Dick Durbin and Mark Kirk, have successfully worked together to recommend qualified individuals for federal judgeships to the President. Both Senators have currently convened judicial selection committees to assist with this task. The President has not nominated any individuals to the Senate to fill any of the three remaining vacancies on the Northern District of Illinois bench at this time.